

THE  
ARMY  
FOR  
A TREATY,  
AND  
ACCOMMODATION:  
OR,

Collections out of severall Papers formerly published by the Army,  
concerning their desires (grounded on solid reasons) of Peace by Accommodation  
with His Majesty and His Party, on  
tearmes very futable to those now  
proposed by the Parliament.

*Whereunto is annexed,*

A Letter to His EXCELLENCY,  
and the Officers of the Army in Councell Assembled.  
And short Observations on the Collections.

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JAMES I. 8.

*A double minded man is unstable in all his waies.*

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Printed in the Year, 1648. *July*

THE  
ARMY  
FOR  
A TREATY  
AND  
ACCOMMODATION  
OR

Collected out of several Papers for  
Army published by the Army,  
containing their desires (grounded on solid  
reasons) of Peace by Accommodation  
with the King and the Party on  
terms necessary to them now  
proposed by the Parliament.

And then Observations on the Collection.  
A Letter to His Excellency  
and the Officers of the Army in Council-Assembled.

JAMES K.  
which was written by him.

Printed in the Year, 1648.

In the representation of the Army,

June 14. 1647.

*This is set down as the 8. proposall for*

**P E A C E.**

8. **T**hat (publick justice being first satisfied by some few examples to posterity out of the worst excepted persons, and other Delinquents, having made their Compositions) some course may be taken by a general Act of Oblivion, or other wayes, whereby the seeds of future War, or feuds either to the present Age, or Posterity, may the better be taken away, by easing that lence of present, and satisfying those fears of future ruine, or undoing to persons, or Families, which may drive men into desperate wayes, for self-preservation, or remedy; and by taking away the private remembrance and distinction of Parties, as far as may stand with safety to the Rights and Liberties we have hitherto fought for. *Page 45.*

*In the humble Remonstrance from His Excellency Sir Tho: Fairfax, and the Army under His Command, presented to the Commissioners at S. Albans, June 23. 1647. is this passage.*

**A**nd whereas there has been scandalous informations presented to the Houses, and industriously published in Print, importing, as if His Majesty were kept as Prisoner amongst us,

and barbarously, and uncivilly used. We cannot but declare, that the same, & all other suggestions of that sort, are most false, scandalous, and absolutely contrary, not onely to our declared desires, but also to our *Principles*, which are most clearly, for a generall Right, and just Freedom to all. And therefore, upon this occasion we cannot but declare particularly, that we desire the same for the King, and others of *His Party*, (so far as can consist with common Right and Freedom, & with the security of the same for future;) And we do further clearly profess, we do not see how there can be any peace to the Kingdome firme or lasting, without a due consideration of, and provision for the Rights, quiet, and immunity of *His Majesties Royall Family*, and *His late partakers*: and herein we think that tender and equitable dealing, (as supposing their cause had been ours) and a spirit of common love, and justice, diffusing it self to the good and preservation of all, will make up the most glorious Conquest over their hearts (if God in mercy see it good) to make them, and the whole people of the Land lasting Friends. *Page 64.*

*In a Letter from Sir Tho: Fairfax to both Houses of Parliament, giving an account of transactions between His Majesty, and the Army, there is this passage.*

**I**N generall, we humbly conceive, that to avoide all harshness, and afford all kinde usage to His Majesties Person, in things consisting with the peace and safety of the Kingdome, is the most *Christian, honourable, and prudent way*: And in all things (as the representation and Remonstrance of the Army, doth expresse) we think that tender, equitable, and moderate dealing both towards *His Majesty, His Royall Family, and late Party* (so far as may stand with the safety of the Kingdome, and security to our common Rights and Liberties) is the most hopefull course to take away the seeds of War, or future feuds amongst us for Posterity, and to procure a lasting Peace, and a Government in this distracted Nation. *Page 75.*

*Reading, July 6. 1647.*

*In the Proposals of the Army, 1 Aug. 1647.*

7 14. That (things here before proposed, being provided for settling and securing the Rights, Liberties, and safety of the Kingdome) His Majesties Person, Queen, and Royall Issue, may be restored to a condition of Safety, Honour, and Freedome in this Nation, without diminution of their Personall Rights, or further limitation to the exercise of the Regall Power, then according to the particulars aforesaid.

15. For the matter of Compositions.

1. That a lesser number out of the persons excepted in the two first qualifications (*not exceeding five for the English*) being nominated particularly by the Parliament, who (together with the persons in the *Irish* Rebellion included in the third qualification) may be reserved to the further judgement of the Parliament as they shall see cause: All other excepted persons may be remitted from the exception, and admitted to Compositions.

2. That the rates for all future Compositions may be lessened, and limited not to exceede the severall proportions hereafter exprest respectively; that is to say,

1. For all persons formerly excepted, not above a third part.

2. For the late Members of Parliament under the first branch of the fourth qualification, a fourth Part.

3. For other Members of Parliament in the second, and third branch of the said qualification, a sixth Part.

4. For the persons nominated in the said four qualifications, and those included in the tenth qualification, an eighth Part.

5. For all others included in the sixth qualification, a tenth Part.

And that real Debts, either upon record, or proved by witness, be considered, and abated in the valuation of their Estates in all the cases aforesaid.

3. That those, who shall hereafter come to compound, may not have the Covenant put upon them, as a condition without which they may not Compound.

16. That there may be a generall Act of Oblivion to extend to all (except the persons to be continued (in exception as before) to absolve from all trespasses, misdemeanors, &c. done in prosecution of the Warre) and from all trouble or prejudice, for, or concerning the same. Page 116. 117.



For his Excellency,  
**THOMAS** Lord **FAIRFAX**,  
 and the Officers of the Army  
 under his Command, in  
 Councill Assembled.

Right Honourable,

**U**nderstanding by common fame that on Tuesday  
 Novemb. 16. there is to be a generall Councell  
 of all the Officers of the Army, the result whereof  
 may have a great influence on the affaires of this distracted  
 Kingdome. Out of a fervent desire of my Countries good;  
 I have taken the boldnesse to represent to your Excellency,  
 and the rest of that Honourable Councell, an abstract of some  
 particulars out of your formerly Printed papers, containing  
 your worthy expressions to promote, with the freedome, the  
 Peace of this Nation, by tender respect to all Estates there-  
 in. How popular those expressions rendered your Excel-  
 lency, and the Army under your Command, I need not now  
 tell your Excellency, nor them: Nor need I expresse what  
 contrary effects any recession from those expressions, and  
 proposals may worke, if in so hopeful a circumstance of af-  
 faires for Peace, there should be any interposition from you,  
 to frustrate the present expectation of the closure of our  
 breach upon any pretences contrariant to those expressions  
 inclosed, so deliberately penn'd, and generally communica-  
 ted to the eyes of all the Nation. Mutability in men of your  
 places, is in it self a thing too unsutable: but in a case of this  
 nature, It cannot but be lookt upon as the fruit of the turne  
 of private interest (the publique being still the same;) And  
 for

for men that have done so much for the Publique, to move  
 on the hinge of private interest, in a businesse of this con-  
 cernment, how greatly it may obscure your present resplen-  
 dent glory, I hope you will rather foresee in reason, then ad-  
 venture to read it in the black letters of sad experience.  
 Verbum sapienti. I will conclude with hope, and prayer,  
 that God will so direct you, that you will promise the happy  
 hoped for cloosure of our distractions, and crowne all  
 your former Victories over others, with this victory over  
 all private interest in your selves, to promote the Publique;  
 which is most manifestly involved in a good Peace.

Observa-

(6)  
*Observations on the foregoing passages.*

**R**eaches. They must Observe that the whole Assembly  
their Remembrance Declares. 1. That it is contrary  
against their desires, but Principles, to imprison the King,  
or use Him uncivilly. And I hope their Principles are  
the same still.

2. They declare their belief, that there cannot be any peace  
to the Kingdom firm, or lasting, without a due consideration  
of, and provision for the rights, quiet, and immunities of His  
Majesties Royall Family, and His late partakers.

3. That they come lower in moderating rigour to the Kings  
Party then the Houses, bringing the parties exempted to five (the  
Parliament holds up to seven :) And the five not condemn'd  
to death, but refer'd to the further judgement of the Parlia-  
ment, as they shall see cause.

4. After all they move for a general Act of Oblivion in  
as full termes as may be, and very rationally, to prevent future  
disturbance of the State. *Whence from their owne pens it must ne-  
cessarily follow, that if they (under pretence of Justice) shall dis-  
turbe this present Treaty, or use (to say no worse) any uncivility  
to the King; They shall recede from their owne Principles, render us  
incapable of a peace firme and lasting; which the late experience  
since the Vote of No addresses may more clear unto us. And if such an  
attempt be not destructive to this poor Kingdom; the World may,  
God will rightly judge.*

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THE END.